

July 16, 2008

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U.S. Congressman

Mark Steven Kirk

Proudly serving the people of the 10th District of Illinois



**** U.S. Congressman Mark Steven Kirk, Proudly Serving the People of the 10th District of Illinois ****

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Featured Video...



Featured Video of the Week

06/15/09: Congressman Kirk discusses his efforts to fight the rise of "Kush" in the suburbs, a new type of "super-marijuana" that is as expensive as crack cocaine. [Click here to view the video clip.](#)

Kirk In the News...

6/16/2009: [Lawmakers offer 'practical' health reform plan](#)

6/16/2009: [Moderates to Present Their Health Care Plan](#)

6/16/2009: [Rep. Kirk wants tougher penalties for super pot](#)

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Dear Friends,

On Monday, history was made in North Chicago as hundreds of local veterans, sailors, VA and Navy leaders joined me in breaking ground on the first-ever joint Navy/VA hospital in the country. Named after Apollo XIII astronaut and national hero Captain James A. Lovell, Jr., the new hospital will serve more than 100,000 veterans, retirees, sailors and their families. You can read more about how we saved our VA after it was scheduled to close nearly a decade ago by clicking [here](#).

With construction of the new \$130 million hospital expansion underway, the Navy [has announced](#) an event at Naval Station Great Lakes for veterans, military personnel and the general public. Emmy-award winning actor Gary Sinise and his Lt. Dan Band have agreed to play a free concert at Ross Field on Friday.

Most Americans know Gary for his moving role as "Lt. Dan" in Forrest Gump. He is a strong advocate for our veterans and travels throughout the world to play concerts for our troops. He also has a special connection to Captain Lovell – Gary played astronaut Ken Mattingly in the 1995 film "Apollo 13."



Congressman Mark Kirk, Captain Lovell and Gary Sinise at the naming ceremony for Lovell Hospital

This is the second appearance of the Lt. Dan Band at Great Lakes in the last year – Gary also came in October of last year to help us announce the new name of our VA hospital.



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Gary Sinise at Great Lakes in 2007



Thousands of sailors watch the Lt. Dan Band in North Chicago

Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band Free Concert

6 p.m. (Gates open between 5 and 6:30 p.m.)

Friday, July 18, 2008

Ross Field

Naval Station Great Lakes

Enter at Gate 1 (Sheridan Road and Farragut Avenue)

Photo IDs will be required for admittance. No pets or carry-ins are allowed and vehicles are subject to search.

I hope you are able to come to the event.

It is an honor to serve you in Congress.

Sincerely,



Mark Kirk
Member of Congress

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